

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Ralph C. Link, Pastor

Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 9:00 A.M.
Christ Church, Duncannon 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP December 27, 1970

The Organ Prelude

*The Hymn of Praise 106 Stanzas 1,2,3,6

*The Call to Worship

*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Where but in Thee have we a covert from the storm, or shadow from the heat of life? In our manifold temptations, Thou alone knowest and art ever nigh; in sorrow Thy pity revives the fainting soul; in our prosperity and ease, it is Thy spirit only that can save us from pride and keep us humble. O Thou sole Source of peace and righteousness, take now the veil from every heart, and join us in one communion with Thy prophets and saints, who have trusted in Thee and were not ashamed. Not of our worthiness, but of Thy tender mercy, hear our prayer; for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord. Amen.

*The Kyrie

*The Assurance of Pardon

The Scripture---Matthew 10:17-33

*The Gloria Patri

*Hymn 112

The Pastoral Prayer

Announcements

The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

*The Doxology

*The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Hymn of Meditation 108

The Sermon--"Will The Real Christian Please Stand Up?"

The Sermon Prayer

*The Hymn of Response 120

*The Benediction

*The Threefold Amen

*The Postlude

*Denotes Congregation Standing

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will have Communion January 10th. The Rev. James Gold will exchange pulpits with your pastor on this date.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation is invited to the wedding of Susan Colleen Gamber and John Wayne Hostetter this afternoon at 2:30 P.M.

Call to Worship: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. This God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death.

He that sat upon the throne said, Behold I make all things new, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Hear the comforting words of the Scriptures to all who truly repent: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. As far as the East is from the West, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Amen.

WILL THE REAL CHRISTIAN PLEASE STAND UP?
Stand Up And Be Counted

MATT

Text Matt: 10: 32-33.

~~"Whoever shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father."~~ So IF ANYONE DECLARES HIMSELF FOR ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MEN, I WILL DECLARE MYSELF FOR HIM IN THE PRESENCE OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN. (JERUSALEM BIBLE)

In our present day world we are called upon many times to take a stand for or against something. In politics we are either for or against a candidate. We are either for or against the platform they run on. In our everyday life we must decide if we are for or against the improvements of our communities. Taxes, zoning changes, street paving, sewers and so on. And even in religion we are called upon to be for or against things in the church. Synod actions, merging with other congregations, and things that are brought before our individual congregations for a vote. In order to be pro or con on any subject we must be informed on just what we are for or against. We are to be concerned mainly with being for or against Christ this morning. Maybe you are thinking that I'm way off base in suggesting that any of us may be against Christ. Let me hasten to add that is not my intent. I realize that surely we must be for Christ or we would not be here this morning. But to what degree? Are we totally committed to Him or do we merely pay Him lip service? Is our life Christ centered or do we keep His name silent when we should speak it? To answer these and any of the other things we shall propose this morning calls for a little soul searching. If we are honest with ourselves we can soon enough find out where we stand.

~~"Whoever shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father."~~ So IF ANYONE DECLARES HIMSELF FOR ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MEN I WILL DECLARE MYSELF FOR HIM IN THE PRESENCE OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN. WILL THE REAL CHRISTIAN PLEASE STAND UP?

As I stated before we must first know what we are to be for or against. So briefly let us look at Christ to understand why we should be for

or against Him. Here is a man who came from a very humble beginning. The word humble here is a grave understatement. How many other great men can we think of who were born in a stable? According to our modern day standards looking at Christ from the human standpoint, He and His family would be the number one candidates for our poverty program, care and any other welfare program we have. But from His poor and humble beginning He became the greatest single individual the world has ever known. Simply this, He was able to do things that no one else could do. Such as curing the sick, raising the dead and other feats. The greatest feat He performed was to be crucified and after being dead three days arise from the dead. Now you may say we all know this. Yes we do. But have you ever stopped to ask just why it is we should be for or against Him? The main reason is that He was and is the Son of God. We all believe that God is our creator and that He sent His Son into the world to suffer and die for us. But we must carry this one step further and ask why God did this for us? If we go back to Biblical times we find that man time after time turned from God and His commandments. God was concerned about His people just as He is today. And in order to redeem His people He sacrificed His Son for us. So it all boils down to this. If Christ who was without sin took our sin upon Himself and suffered and died for us, then the reason for being for Him is ^{CRYSTAL} clear. We should stand up and be counted for Christ.

~~"Whoever shall confess Me before men, him will I also confess before My Father."~~ ^{SO IF ANYONE DECLARES HIMSELF FOR ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MEN, I WILL DECLARE MYSELF FOR HIM IN THE PRESENCE OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN.}

We are living in a world today filled with frustration and anxiety and tension. We hear it on the radio. We see it on television. We read it in the newspaper. One nation is suspicious of another nation. One race of people is suspicious of another race. Groups of individuals are set against other groups in city after city in our country. Why all this frustration, anxiety, and tension? The answer is an emphatic lack

of Christ in the world, our nation, and in our individual lives. We have a grave problem in our country today that is a direct result of our world's turmoil and frustration and tension. This problem is mental health. The problem keeps growing every year. There are simply not enough institutions or funds to cope with the growth of this problem.

^{PAST FEW YEARS} In the ~~past month or so~~ ^{WE} we have read and heard of ~~an~~ individual ~~who~~ who went on a rampage in Chicago and killed 18 young nurses. An individual in Texas killed 13 more. These events happen almost every day somewhere in our country or the world. Somewhere along the line these people have gotten out of touch with God. Now I am not saying that simply by believing in Christ will cure mental illness. Not at all. Because there are certain types of mental illness brought on by conditions other than frustration and anxiety. We can read accounts of mental illness in the New Testament. So you see it is not a new problem at all. But what I am trying to say is that if we put Christ foremost in our lives we can greatly reduce our chances of having mental illness. By putting Christ foremost I mean placing Him before our ambitions, our selfish desires, our search for prosperity and security, our businesses, our professions, and whatever we strive to excel at or have more of. I was talking to a man not long ago, who told me he can't sleep at night because he worries about the Red Chinese problem and the problem that some demented individual may drop the bomb on us. He is really concerned about this and he ~~he~~ said it is on his mind constantly. Now is he some kind of nut or just one person that feels this way? I think not. He is a normal person in all respects. And there are many, many people who feel this way. Talk to some people on these subjects and see what their reaction is and how they feel. You may be surprised at how many people are really worried about issues such as these. Does it do us any good to worry about these things? We know that it doesn't. We as individuals cannot do anything about ^{solving} these problems. Neither can we stop frustration and anxiety from coming into

our lives. We all have problems. You have them and so do I. Everyone does. But if we are entirely and completely committed to Christ we can overcome our fears and anxieties. Christ gives us the strength to go on no matter how insurmountable our troubles may seem. Thinking along these same lines I think we should also point out that the modern trend today is to try to run away from our problems and troubles. Like a popular tune written a few years ago states, "Let's get away from it all" ^{AN AUTO COMMERCIAL HAD "THE ESCAPE CAR"} Whenever trouble comes many people take flight. They go on a trip. They go somewhere to be amused or entertained. They seek some outlet to let them forget their troubles. And they delay and stall in facing the inevitable. And that is that someday at some time they must meet their problem headon. We can take a trip to California or the far reaches of Alaska. And when we return our trouble will still be here. We can go to ^{A PLAY} the Civic Light Opera, or one of the downtown movie theatres, or the museum, or any place trying to forget our cares. But upon our return our troubles will be right where we left them. If indeed they have not traveled right along with us. So you see we cannot escape our worries and cares. It takes more courage to face up to them and straighten them out than it does to run. But if we look to Christ we can have the strength and courage we need to carry on. ~~"Whoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before my Father."~~ ^{IF ANYONE DECLARED HIMSELF FOR ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MEN, I WILL DECLARE MYSELF FOR HIM IN THE PRESENCE OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN} Our country is supposed to be a religious nation. A church going people. But are we? Do we really belong to a church because we have need of it, or do we have ulterior motives for belonging? In surveys made recently it has been noted that a large majority of protestants do not even know in what they believe. When asked in what they specifically believed most of them could not even give the first part of the Apostles Creed for an answer. Now is this a sign of a religious people? We know it isn't. The reason for this lack of knowledge is due to the fact that many people have a lackadaisical way of looking at the church. You just

get up in front of the congregation mutter a few I do's and then come when you feel like it or stay at home. We need to try to educate these people in what our commitment should mean. When we stand before this Altar or any other we are asked if we believe in God as our Father and in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. Then we are asked if we vow to serve Him and to do His will in our lives. Naturally we say we do. But do these words "serve Him " really mean something or are they simply words to be forgotten and ignored? Unfortunately to many people they are words to be ignored. But if we are to serve Him we must confess Him. This confession is more than just saying it when we are accepted as church members. Or more than just saying it when we repeat the Apostles Creed. The tragic thing is that we hear Christ confessed more in cursing than we do otherwise. If we are to confess Christ before men that means to live our lives as a visible means of showing we belong to Him. And we must also confess Christ personally to other people. Almost all of us get many opportunities to do this and we fail to stand up and be counted for Christ. Why? Because we are afraid to be laughed at. Or we are afraid to be different from the crowd. We shall never win any popularity contests by confessing Christ before men. Christ Himself told us this. But we must remember that our reward is not here on this earth. So the next time the occasion arises to talk to someone of Christ, ask Christ for the ability to speak and you will be amazed at the help He will give you if you let Him. It is a strange phenomena indeed that Christ will give us the actual words of praise to tell other people about Himself. But it is true. If you have never experienced this believe me when I say that the experience is very rewarding. Not in praise or glory you may receive from your fellowman but from the spiritual satisfaction you will get. The spiritual satisfaction derived from confessing Christ to others is unlike anything that you will experience in your life. It is an undefinable blessing that comes to you and seems to uplift and strengthen

you. So let us each one make up our minds this day that whenever the next opportunity to speak to someone about Christ comes along, we will be prepared to stand up and be counted. If we do this we will be doing Christ's bidding when He says, "If anyone declares himself for Me in the presence of men, I will declare Myself for him in the presence of My Father in heaven."

"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus's blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus name. When He shall come with trumpet sound oh may I then in Him be found, Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand."

This is what one hymn writer has penned as a credo of life. This or something similar to it should become our theme of life. We need to each take a stand either for or against Christ. Will the real Christian please stand up?

St. John Emelnton 11:00 10/13/68

Processional Hymn 17
*Call to Worship (Choir)
*Confession of Sin
*Assurance of Pardon
Responsive Reading Sel. 54 Pg. 601
In 193
Scripture Matthew 10; 16-24
*Gloria Patri
*Apostles Creed
*Pastoral Prayer
Anthem
Announcements

Chicken supper Salem Oct. 24th Thurs.

FALL MEETING CLARK ASSOC.

Offering, Prayer
*Hymn 158
Sermon
I over & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 72
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen
*Postlude

Salem Lemartine 9:30 10/13/68

*Processional Hymn 39
*Call to Worship Page 219
*Confession of Sin
*Assurance of Pardon
Scripture Matthew 10; 16-24
* Gloria Patri
*Apostles Creed
*Pastoral Prayer
Anthem
Announcements

Chicken supper Oct. 24th

LADIES AID THURS. 8:00
A-TAR FLAMERS WERE PRESENTED BY
DON & ARNE SHERMAN IN MEMORY OF
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP 6:30 THEIR INFANT
S.O.P.
HISTORY OF SALEM ON BACK TABLE

Offering, Response, Prayer
Hymn 76
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 274
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen
*Postlude

Thank you sincerely

for sharing our sorrow

Your kindness will always be held

in grateful remembrance

Paul E. Wynne